position is better as compared to last year because of the improvements that have been made.

(b) and (c) The power sector reform package in Delhi has been so designed that the distribution companies have to achieve specified loss reduction target for five years. In case they over achieve the loss reduction targets, half of the additional profit has to be passed on to the consumers as a rebate in the tariff.

(d) The steps being taken to improve the distribution facilities include augmentation of system, introduction of new billing software and setting up of quick consumer complaint redressal mechanism etc. by the distribution companies on a continuous basis. The augmentation of transmission and distribution system is being monitored by the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC.

Power theft in Delhi

1126. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether out of 55.2 per cent losses due to power theft in Delhi, seven per cent can be attributed to slum dwellers;

(b) whether annual losses due to theft were to the tune of Rs. 1400 crore at the time of privatization;

(c) if so, to what extent these have been reduced so far;

(d) what steps are being taken to reduce the power theft cases; and

(e) whether Government propose to set up special courts to deal such cases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) No, Sir. There is no basis for stating either that losses in Delhi are 55.2% or that all the losses are due to power theft or that seven percent can be attributed to slum dwellers.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

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†Origmal notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) After the privatization of distribution of power in Delhi, the distribution companies have accepted target of reducing the losses including power theft by about 17% gradually over a period of five years. Moreover, under Section 135 of the Electricity Act, 2003, whoever dishonestly taps lines or cables or service wires, tampers, damages or destroys meters etc., shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years or with fine or with both.

(e) Under Section 153 of the Electricity Act, 2003, there is a provision for setting up of special courts by the State Governments to deal with the power theft cases.

Constitution of Tribunal for Dispute in Sharing Hydro-Electric Power

1127. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has proposal for the constitution of Tribunal for Settlement of Inter-State Disputes for Sharing Hydro-electric Power;

(b) if so, whether Government has plans to form such a tribunal in order to speedy settlement of inter-State disputes;

(c) if so, by when would the tribunal be constituted; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA): (a) At present, the Government has no proposal to constitute an Inter-State Tribunal for Hydro-electric Projects.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(d) A comprehensive proposal has not emerged.

Displaced people of Tehri and Dhauli Ganga Projects

†1128. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of families to be displaced by Tehri and Dhauli Ganga projects and the number of persons already displaced so far, project-wise;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.